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April 10, 2002 LB 1211, 1309

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, Mr. President, again I want to reiterate that the impacts of these particular aid programs are kind of a mixed bag. We will find some municipalities that can compensate. We will find some counties that can compensate. This is not unlike the school issue, if you recall, where we had number of school districts that could compensate and a number that we didn't think would be able to compensate. in the context of the school issue were larger than anything that we see in this particular context, but we had the same issue. We had some that could compensate, some that could not. As I've indicated based on the work that we were doing on LB 1211, I can tell you there are about 135 municipalities that are at 45 cents or above in their levy. I was trying to find my sheet so I could determine who would happen to be at their 50 cent levy. So this will...this will severely impact some communities, and if you want to know which communities those likely are, I'm trying to find my sheets, we can ...we can point those out to you. Likewise, it will substantially impact some With the counties that are at their 50 cent levies, they have no place to go, constitutionally, no place to go, and they will be severely impacted. And, of course, there are two programs here that affect the counties. Potentially, I think we have one NRD that would be impacted. As soon as we're finished, we'll probably find out that there was more than one and that was wrong, but we have traditionally had one NRD in the southeast corner that has been close to its levy limit. We also have one out in Senator Baker's territory in the southwest that has also had some challenges. But I can't tell exactly whether they could absorb this particular cut within their existing levy limit. We'd have to go back and analyze, of course, increases in their valuations. But this is a cut in our budget that is likely to result in higher property taxes. So maybe that is, when all is said and done, one consideration for you. I suspect that it will be for some and it is a reversal, in part, of our past efforts.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wickersham. Senator Janssen, on the Schimek motion. Senator Janssen, did you wish